

**REMARKS**

Claims 2-9 are pending in the application. Claim 2 has been amended. Support for amended Claim 2 can be found for example, on page 2, lines 8-10. Thus, no new matter has been added. Accordingly, entry of the present amendment is requested.

Claims 2-4, 6, and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by the article titled "Nanocorundum - Advanced Synthesis and Processing" by Krell et al.

Claims 2-4 and 6-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over the article titled "Nanocorundum - Advanced Synthesis and Processing" by Krell et al.

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for the reasons set forth on pages 2-3 of the Response filed October 9, 2007, which are incorporated herein by reference.

Additionally, without admitting that these rejections are appropriate, independent Claim 2 has been amended to incorporate "consisting essentially of" language into Claim 2 as suggested by the Examiner on page 8 of the Office Action. Applicants submit that the cited art neither teaches nor suggests the invention as recited in the amended claims.

***Common Ownership***

Applicants included a Statement of Common Ownership in the Response filed October 9, 2007. *See*, page 3, last paragraph. For the Examiner's convenience, Applicants have reproduced the Statement below:

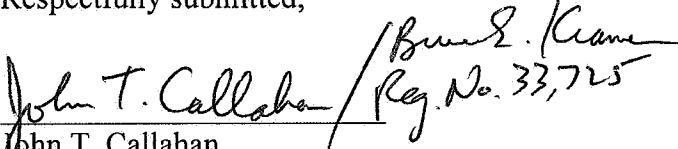
**Statement of Common Ownership:** In response, Applicants state that the present application and U.S. Patent Application No 11/079,163 were

**commonly owned at the time the present invention was made by Sumitomo  
Chemical Company, Ltd.**

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

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